

Jesus, the Great I Am

Behold and Become

Three Sections

- **Freedom**, John 8:31-37
- **Fathers**, John 8:38-51
- **Forever**, John 8:52-59

Freedom, John 8:31-37

Jesus' Disciples are Free

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, “You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”
John 8:31-32 (NLT2)

Set Free in Jesus' Truth

- Freedom to become you, which is more than you ever dreamed.
- Freedom to break away from bonds, barriers, and burdens, to run your race.
- Freedom to be aligned with real reality, to be clear-headed, courageous, and courteous.

Slaves of Sin

“But we are descendants of Abraham,” they said. “We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, ‘You will be set free’?” Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever.” John 8:33-35 (NLT2)

Evidence of Satanic Slavery

So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free. Yes, I realize that you are descendants of Abraham. And yet some of you are trying to kill me because there's no room in your hearts for my message. I am telling you what I saw when I was with my Father. But you are following the advice of your father.” John 8:36-38 (NLT2)

Whoa! Back Up the Truck

I am telling you what I saw when I was with my Father... John 8:38

Fathers, John 8:38-51

Who's Your Daddy?

“Our father is Abraham!” they declared. “No,” Jesus replied, “for if you were really the children of Abraham, you would follow his example. Instead, you are trying to kill me because I told you the truth, which I heard from God. Abraham never did such a thing. No, you are imitating your real father.” They replied, “We aren’t illegitimate children! God himself is our true Father.” John 8:39-41

Family Resemblance

Jesus told them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, because I have come to you from God. I am not here on my own, but he sent me. Why can’t you understand what I am saying? It’s because you can’t even hear me!

For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.

So when I tell the truth, you just naturally don’t believe me!
Which of you can truthfully accuse me of sin? And since I am telling you the truth, why don’t you believe me? Anyone who belongs to God listens gladly to the words of God. But you don’t listen because you don’t belong to God.” John 8:42-47 (NLT2)

Jesus Honored His Father

The people retorted, “You Samaritan devil! Didn’t we say all along that you were possessed by a demon?”

“No,” Jesus said, “I have no demon in me. For I honor my Father—and you dishonor me. And though I have no wish to glorify myself, God is going to glorify me. He is the true judge. I tell you the truth, anyone who obeys my teaching will never die!” John 8:48-51 (NLT2)

Forever, John 8:52-59

Death Comes to Everyone, Dude

The people said, “Now we know you are possessed by a demon. Even Abraham and the prophets died, but you say, ‘Anyone who obeys my teaching will never die!’”
John 8:52 (NLT2)

The Greater

Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?” John 8:53 (NLT2)

Glory, Greatness, and Gladness

Jesus answered, “If I want glory for myself, it doesn’t count. But it is my Father who will glorify me. You say, ‘He is our God,’ but you don’t even know him. I know him. If I said otherwise, I would be as great a liar as you! But I do know him and obey him. Your father Abraham rejoiced as he looked forward to my coming. He saw it and was glad.”
John 8:54-56 (NLT2)

The Big Reveal

Question

The people said, “You aren’t even fifty years old. How can you say you have seen Abraham?” John 8:57 (NLT2)

Declaration

Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, before Abraham was even born, I AM!”
John 8:58 (NLT2)

The Rock Response

At that point they picked up stones to throw at him. But Jesus was hidden from them and left the Temple. John 8:59 (NLT2)

Discovering Truth

- Freedom requires believing Jesus and living his way.
- God the Father is to be honored, listened to, and obeyed to enjoy the family benefits.
- Jesus has been, is, and will be forever. Jesus is the great I AM. Grasping Jesus’ essence is necessary for knowing him closely.